



Intelligence Information Report

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REPORT NO. CSDB-312/01433-70

DATE DISTR. 6 November 1970

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PAGE 1 OF 85 PAGES

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REPORT NO. CSDB-312/01433-70

DATE DISTR. 6 November 1970

COUNTRY Warsaw Pact

DOI Prior to March 1970

SUBJECT Warsaw Pact Concept of Strategy for
Military Operations in Europe

ACQ

FIELD NO.

Summary

This report is a translation [redacted] of a TOP SECRET [redacted] document on the subject "The Strategic Operation in a Theater of War". The date and originator of the document are not known. The document is a seminar outline which deals with all aspects of war in Europe. Employment of chemical weapons appears to be a routine aspect of nuclear warfare.

End of Summary

[redacted] Comment: A number of senior Soviet Bloc officials were reported to have attended "strategic" courses in Moscow in late 1969 and early 1970. This document may have been prepared in connection with those courses.

There are some parallels between this collection of notes and the notes published in CSDB-312/01857-70. In this connection, an apparent significant error was introduced by the author of CSDB-312/01857-70 regarding alert phases. In Paragraph 23 of that report, the terms "Permanent" and "Full" in reference to alert categories should be reversed, to be consistent with reliable collateral information on definitions of Warsaw Pact alert phases.

5
4
3
2

5
4
3
2

~~T-O-P~~ ~~S-E-C-R-E-T~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

CSDB-312/01433-70

-1a-

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Pages</u>
Views of the Probable Enemy on the Manner of Unleashing and Conducting a War in the European Theater of War	2 - 3
The Strategic Operation in the Theater of War	4 - 8
Measures for the Preparation of Operations	8 - 11
Conduct of the Strategic Operation	11 - 12
The Conduct of Offensive Operations by the <u>Front</u> in Coordination with the Fleets, Airborne Operations and Other Branches of Service	13 - 14
Peculiarities in the Conduct of an Offensive Operation Using Conventional Weapons	15 - 16
Roles, Objectives, Tasks and Scale of an Offensive Operation by the <u>Front</u> (Army) and Factors Which Influence It	17 - 24
Coordination by Troops of the <u>Front</u> with Strategic Rocket Troops, Long-Range Air Forces, Troops of the Air Defense, Naval Forces, Adjacent Fronts and Airborne Troops in the Conduct of an Offensive Operation Immediately Following Nuclear Strikes	25 - 31
Peculiarities of an Offensive on the Maritime Axis	31 - 32
Peculiarities of an Offensive in the Mountains	32
Content and Tasks of the Preparation of an Offensive Operation by the <u>Front</u> and Army	33 - 35
Decision-Making and Planning the Offensive Operation	35 - 39
Measures to Assure Constant Readiness of Troops to Achieve Surprise in the Conduct of the First Nuclear Strike and in the Shift to Offensive	39 - 41
Planning of the First Nuclear Strike of the <u>Front</u>	41 - 43
Methods of Conducting the Offensive Operation of the <u>Front</u> and Army and the Destruction of Strong Groupings of the Enemy	43 - 44

TS # 199999

Copy # 3

~~T-O-P SECRET~~

-1b-

TABLE OF CONTENTS (CONTINUED)

	<u>Pages</u>	
Objective and Tasks of the Offensive Operation of the <u>Front</u> and Army, Combat Capabilities of the <u>Front</u> and Army. Scale of the Offensive Operation Without Employment of Nuclear Weapons	45 - 47	
Planning of the Attack of Troops of the <u>Front</u> and Army	47 - 50	
Shift by Troops of the <u>Front</u> and Army to an Offensive	51 - 53	
Shift from the Conduct of an Offensive with Employment of Conventional Weapons Only to Employment of Nuclear Weapons	53 - 54	
Control of Troops of the <u>Front</u> and Army in the Offensive Operation	55 - 56	✓
Control of Troops at the Beginning and in the Course of the Operation	56 - 58	✓
Means and Methods of Relocating Control Points	58 - 59	
Tasks of Rocket Troops and Artillery in the Offensive Operation of the <u>Front</u> (Army and Methods of Accomplishing Them	60 - 62	
Constant, Increased and Full Combat Readiness of Rocket Troops and Artillery. Measures to Achieve Increased and Full Combat Readiness of Rocket Troops and Artillery of the <u>Front</u> (Army)	62 - 64	
Planning the Combat Employment of Rocket Troops and the Preparation of Strikes with Nuclear and Chemical Rockets. Participation of Rocket Troops of the <u>Front</u> (Army) in the First Nuclear Strike	65 - 68	
Organization of Supply of Rocket Troops with Rockets at the Beginning and in the Course of the Operation	68 - 69	
Peculiarities in the Combat Employment of Rocket Troops and Artillery in the Offensive Operation of the <u>Front</u> (Army), Which Began Without the Employment of Nuclear Weapons	69 - 70	
Tasks of the Defensive Operation of the Army and Demands on the Defense	71 - 74	
The Preparation of the Defensive Operation	74 - 81	
The Conduct of the Defensive Operation	82 - 85	

TS # 199999

Copy # 3

~~TOP SECRET~~

CSDB-312/01433-70

-2-

SEMINAR - OUTLINE

SUBJECT: "The Strategic Operation in a Theater of War"

1. Views of the Probable Enemy on the Manner of Unleashing and Conducting a War in the European Theater of War

-
- In modern, bourgeois literature one does not find an exact and comprehensive definition of the term

"military doctrine"

- However, there are such terms as

"military policy" or

"military strategy"

Military doctrine is the military component of the official government policy of each imperialist state and of NATO collectively. It is based on a series of military-political, military-theoretical, war ideology, military-technical and war economy principles which form the theoretical basis for the aggressive policy of imperialism.

(Example: See "White Book 1969 - Defense Policy of the Federal Republic")

"Military Doctrine--those concepts and principles of conducting a war which are subscribed to by official circles. They form the basis for instruction at military institutions and find recognition in the highest staffs."

(General D. O. Smith, "Military Doctrine of the USA")

Imperialist military doctrine is based on the fictitious hypothesis of the existence of an alleged threat to the West by the socialist states, the USSR in particular. In this manner the aggressive character of the doctrine is concealed and given the appearance of a "defensive concept".

- Military doctrine of imperialist states is distinguished by its
 - . reactionary
 - . anti-democratic and
 - . aggressive nature.

TS # 199999
Copy # 3

~~TOP SECRET~~

CSDB-312/01433-70

-3-

- The imperialist states strive to find a uniform military doctrine for all of NATO; however, sharp and insurmountable differences remain.
- The leading role is played by the USA as the strongest economic power of imperialism.

The aggressive doctrine of "massive retaliation" and forward strategy as the essential NATO military doctrine (1953 - 1967):

- proceeded on the assumption of superior nuclear potential of the USA as compared to the USSR.
- NATO land, air and sea power = the shield; the strategic US air force with nuclear weapons = the sword.

The failure of the NATO doctrine of "massive retaliation" and its modification to a doctrine of phased deterrence (since 1961).

- In the Sixties the growing superiority of the nuclear/missile potential of the USSR and the success of the socialist states in mastering the revolution in military affairs led to a new situation.
- The escalated employment of all available military means.

The doctrine of flexible response as the military component of US global strategy and its application to NATO (since 1967, official NATO doctrine).

- is based on three major types of war:
 - . concealed war (sublimited war)
 - . limited war (limited war)
 - . general war (all-out war or general war)
- in conjunction with the political doctrine of crisis management (escalation theory) there is an attempt to achieve a wide range of variable military possibilities for the use of force (expansion of military conflicts according to the situation, the area and the employment of weapons).
- the doctrine shows the adventurism and aggressiveness of imperialism and at the same time it shows the altered international power relationship.

TS # 199999
Copy # 3

2. The Strategic Operation in the Theater of War

(1) Objectives and Tasks of the Strategic Operation

- a number of factors determine the role, objectives and tasks of ground forces in the strategic operation in a theater of war.

The most important are:

- . the objectives and tasks of the strategic operation in the theater of war
- . the scale of employment of strategic rocket troops and other branches of service
- . the combat capabilities of the ground forces
- . the possible strength and grouping of enemy forces
- . the peculiarities of the theater of war.
- The military-political objectives of every strategic operation are determined by existing conditions and the situation emanating from the overall objectives of the war.

(2) Tasks of the Strategic Operation

- Frustrate the opponent's plans for aggression in the theater of war
- Protect against a surprise attack by the enemy
- Seize the strategic initiative
- Defeat the enemy's main forces in the theater of war
- Capture the strategically most important enemy areas
- Eliminate from the war countries of the enemy coalition in accordance with the objectives of the war
- The ground forces play an important role in the accomplishment of these tasks.

(3) Objectives of the Operation

- The completion of destruction of major groupings of the enemy
 - . rocket troops

TS # 199299
Copy # 3

CSDB-312/01433-70

-5-

- . air forces and
- . ground forces
- Impeding mobilization measures
- Capture the most essential areas and installations on the stipulated strategic axis of the theater of war
- The objectives and tasks of the operation will be achieved through the joint efforts of all branches of service.

The strategic rocket troops play the decisive role.

- The following have a decisive influence on the roles, objectives and tasks of the ground forces in the strategic operation:
 - . air defense troops of the country
 - . strategic airborne troops, and
 - . the navy
- The role, mission and tasks of the ground forces will be determined primarily by the tasks and results of strikes by strategic nuclear weapons.
- Therewith the combat capabilities of the ground forces are enhanced.
- The operational parameters of the ground forces within the framework of a front are:
 - . depth of offensive 1,000 km or more
 - . average speed of offensive 60 - 80 km (tank army 100 km)
 - . width of offensive 300 - 500 km
- Under certain conditions the depth of the operation can be 500 - 800 km.
- The ground forces are in a position to carry the follow-up operation into the entire depth of the theater.
- The role, objectives and tasks of the ground forces are influenced by:
 - . the opposing groupings of ground and air forces
 - . their means of nuclear weapons employment

TS # 199999
Copy # 3

- . the air defense troops and
- . the naval forces
- . a number of other factors, including strategic nuclear weapons

- The opponent can maneuver and regroup his forces.
- The characteristics of the theater of war play an important role.

(4) The Role of the Ground Forces

- Primary importance of strategic rocket troops notwithstanding, the ground forces play a vital role.

(5) Participating Forces and Weapons in the Conduct of a Strategic Operation

- strategic rocket troops
- fronts 3 - 5
- fleets 1 - 2
- armies 10 - 17
- units 45 - 90
- artillery and mortars 6,000 - 10,000
- tanks 10,000 - 20,000
- airplanes 3,000 - 6,000

(6) Role, Objectives and Tasks of the Ground Forces in a Strategic Operation Without Employment of Nuclear Weapons

- In a war which begins without employment of nuclear weapons, the major roles devolve on the ground and air forces.
- Objectives and tasks are then determined differently. For example:
 - . prevent enemy surprise attack and breakthrough
 - . destroy his main forces and means of nuclear employment
 - . seize the most important areas
 - . annihilate the enemy

TS # 199999

Copy # 3

- Operational parameters of the front without use of nuclear weapons
 - . depth 350 - 450 km
 - . average tempo of offensive
 - 35 - 45 km (tank army)
 - 60 - 80 km)
- The conduct of the follow-up operation is possible only after new reserves are brought in.

(7) The Nature of the Operation is Dependent on the Conditions Which Lead to War and the Manner in Which the War is Conducted

Characteristic criteria and possible phases of the operation (with and without employment of nuclear weapons).

(a) Elements of the strategic operation:

- nuclear strikes by strategic rocket troops
- air operation by long-range air forces
- operation of the fronts
- naval operation
- airborne operation
- combat activity by air defense troops of the country
- air operations by air forces to wipe out the groupings of air forces of the enemy (during phase without nuclear weapons employment).

(b) Possible phases of the operation:

- phase without nuclear weapons employment (limited other means of mass destruction)
- phase of decisive nuclear activity
- phase of concluding activity

(c) Possible stages

- conduct of first strategic nuclear strike in the theater and defense against surprise enemy air attacks

TS # 199999

Copy # 3

CSDB-312/01433-70

-8-

- completion of destruction of groupings of combat forces of the enemy coalition and seizure of the most important strategic areas
- destruction of newly appearing means of nuclear weapons employment and destruction of strategic reserves as well as attainment of the strategic objective
- determination of the concept of the strategic operation, "Coordination of combat activities of the strategic rocket troops, the fronts, fleets, operational-tactical and tactical units, and other branches of service, which is accomplished under an overall concept and unified leadership in order to achieve the main objective of the war in a particular theater of war in the shortest possible time "
- the specific content of a strategic operation in a given theater depends on:
 - . the overall character of the war
 - . its beginning
 - . on the types of weapons employed
- in a nuclear war the strategic forces will concentrate their efforts simultaneously on:
 - . destroying the main enemy groupings in the entire depth
 - . destroying the most important installations in the enemy's hinterland
- execution of massive nuclear strikes against the enemy is fundamental
- the decisive role in the strategic operation is played by the first nuclear strike in the theater with strategic nuclear weapons and the nuclear means of fronts and fleets.

3. Measures in the Preparation of an Operation

- (1) Planning the operation and the first nuclear strike in the theater of war
- Planning is one of the most important elements in the preparation of a strategic operation.
 - The plan is based on:
 - . anticipation of the possible conditions of the inception and of the nature of a war;

TS # 199999
Copy # 3

- . concrete, well-founded calculations of the capabilities for employment of one's own troops and enemy troops; and
- . realistic assessment of the situation which can develop prior to and during a war.
- The General Staff will put the plan into effect in keeping with the military-political objectives.
- Plans must be formulated with and without employment of nuclear weapons.

(2) Main Elements of Planning

- formulation of the concept with and without employment of nuclear weapons
- determination of the objectives and tasks of the initial and follow-up offensive operations of the fronts
- establishment of strategic formations (groupings)
- organization of coordination of ground forces with other branches of service
- organization of material-technical and other types of support
- organization of the preparation for the operation (ground forces, fronts)

(3) The concept defines:

- which of the enemy groupings will be destroyed after the first strategic nuclear strike--in what sequence and in what time period.
- which strategic installations and areas will be seized and at what time.
- what forces and weapons will be employed to fulfill the tasks and achieve the final objective.
- which forces and weapons will be employed on the main axis and which on other axes.
- what measures for collaboration will be taken to fulfill the tasks.
- especially, based on concrete strategic objectives and tasks in the period of non-employment of nuclear weapons, the concept will define

TS # 199999
Copy # 3

-10-

- . the method
- . the sequence
- . the time
- of destruction of the enemy, as well as
- . areas and
- . installations
- which are to be seized.

(4) The Special Significance of the Plan for the First Nuclear Strike

- It includes:

- . study in depth of the grouping of the enemy rocket troops, ground forces, naval forces and air defense forces
- . his installations in the deep rear
- . thorough analysis and selection of targets which are to be destroyed
- the following will participate in the destruction of selected targets:
 - . strategic rocket troops
 - . missile submarines
 - . long-range air forces, and
 - . fronts
- determine the effects of the first nuclear strike
- continuous refinement
- transfer of combat responsibility to subordinates and organization of continuous control of combat readiness of troops
- joint planning with coalition partners
- the objective of the strategic operation breaks down into basic tasks for the grouping of combat forces
- the immediate task includes:

TS # 199999
Copy # 3

-11-

- . destruction of the enemy's main forces of nuclear weapons employment
- . destruction of the main grouping of the ground forces

These tasks will be accomplished shortly after the first nuclear strike.

- The follow-up task includes:

- . completion of the destruction of the opponent's grouping of combat forces
- . seizure of the most important territory of the enemy
- . inducing the capitulation of individual enemy countries.

4. Conduct of the Strategic Operation

(1) The conduct of the first nuclear strike in the theater using strategic nuclear weapons of fronts and fleets.

- Strategic rocket troops will strike on signal by the High Command.
- Concurrently--or immediately following--the missile submarines will strike.
- Simultaneously with the missile strike, or immediately thereafter, the long-range aircraft will strike. Takeoff occurs concurrently with the first salvo by strategic rocket troops.
- If possible, operational-tactical rocket troops strike simultaneously with strategic rocket troops (possibly limited to duty forces).
- Air forces of the front will be deployed away from enemy attack and will subsequently fulfill their tasks.
- Reconnaissance after the strike is important.
- The first nuclear strike by the fleet depends on the first salvo by the strategic rocket troops.
- The first salvo by strategic rocket troops has to be the signal for nuclear strikes by all other forces and weapons.

TS # 199999
Copy # 3

(2) Defense Against an Enemy Surprise Nuclear Attack

- The first nuclear strike in the theater of war is also launched as a defense against a nuclear strike by the enemy.
- Activities of forces and weapons
 - . troop air defense of fronts and fleets
 - . air defense of the country
 - . activities of duty weapons and swift employment of all remaining troop air defense and national air defense forces and weapons
- All forces and equipment in an area operate according to a uniform plan.
- Effects of the first nuclear strike may alter the situation considerably:
 - . high losses
 - . individual groupings lose combat effectiveness
 - . all commanding officers and staffs take measures to eliminate the effects of the nuclear surprise attack.
 - . it is essential to clarify and assess the situation.
 - . all measures must be taken to fulfill the assigned tasks.
 - . the political/morale situation is of great importance.

CSDB-312/01433-70

-13-

The Conduct of an Offensive Operation by the Fronts in Collaboration with the Fleets, Airborne Operations and Other Branches of Service

The offensive operations of the fronts include:

- conduct of nuclear strikes by operational-tactical rocket troops.
- purposeful pursuit of offensive operations by the armies on various axes in the depth of the theater.

After the first nuclear strike, offensive operations by the fronts begin

- at minimal intervals
- using areas where the level of radiation presents no danger

Tasks of the offensive operations of the fronts:

- to complete the destruction of the enemy
- to seize important areas

Offensive operations by the fronts can begin:

- concurrently along the entire front
- at different times on various axes.

It is possible that on some axes the offensive operation cannot be carried through. Under these circumstances the main assault groupings have to be placed in immediate combat readiness, particularly its command structure.

Overcoming areas which were contaminated presents the most difficult problem. It is essential to observe the permissible limits of radiation exposure.

In operations of a front, wide use is made of airborne troops; on coastal axes and in island operations extensive use is made of amphibious troops.

The objective in the employment of airborne and amphibious troops in front operations is:

- to repel possible enemy counterattacks as quickly as possible
- to prevent the enemy from re-establishing his combat effectiveness
- to prevent the enemy from moving in troops and equipment from other theaters and from abroad

TS # 199999
Copy # 3

Tasks of the strategic rocket troops:

- to re-establish readiness for carrying out nuclear strikes
- to conduct nuclear strikes against targets selected by the General Staff

Tasks of long-range air forces:

- to continue collaboration with the fleet
- to combat aircraft carriers, missile submarines and other small targets

Tasks of naval forces:

- to continue strikes against enemy missile submarines
- to complete destruction of the main groupings of the enemy fleet
- to engage in amphibious and sea transport operations
- to seize enemy ports

Tasks of air defense troops:

- to employ radiotechnical means according to their capabilities
- to employ fighter planes of air defense to afford cover for the troops of the front along the entire width

The General Staff may allocate the fighter planes to the fronts. It may also shift air defense troops and equipment to the front axis.

In conducting an offensive operation of a front the following measures must be taken:

- continuous reconnaissance of the enemy reserves
- carrying out combat with enemy reserves and their destruction
- introduction of reserves or the second-echelon units for purposeful pursuit of the offensive operation.

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

CSDB-312/01433-70

-15-

Peculiarities in the Conduct of an Offensive Operation with Conventional Weapons

Achieving air superiority.

At the beginning of the air operation (according to Israel's experience)

- conduct two or three massive strikes on airfields and control posts.

Engage in joint operations of naval and long-range planes to destroy main forces of the enemy's fleet, especially missile submarines.

Front and army begin assaults on separate axes with

- meeting engagements/battles
- encirclements
- destruction of the enemy unit by unit

The tempo of the offensive and the depth of the operation differ from the conduct of an offensive operation which employs nuclear weapons:

- | | | |
|----------------------|------------------|--------------|
| - tempo of offensive | 20 - 50 km a day | |
| - depth of tasks | <u>front</u> | army |
| immediate task | 150 - 250 km | 100 - 150 km |
| follow-up task | 350 - 450 km | 150 - 250 km |

The tasks of naval forces:

- to destroy carrier strike units
- to combat the enemy fleet
- to support amphibious operations

The tasks of air defense, the air protection of the fronts and fleets:

- to defend against massive enemy air strikes
- to provide cover for the troops

The tasks of strategic and operational-tactical rocket troops:

- to maintain constant readiness to conduct the first nuclear strike

On some axes the front may shift to the defense with part of its forces.

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

-16-

The main task in the conduct of an offensive operation without nuclear weapons is performed by the fronts and fleets. The activities of the air forces also play an important role.

In the course of the offensive operation, the destruction of means of employment of nuclear weapons is of great importance. Equally important are measures to overcome nuclear mine barriers.

The plan for the employment of nuclear weapons must be continually reviewed and refined.

Shift to Nuclear Employment

If the situation develops unfavorably for the enemy, he may make the decision to change over to employment of nuclear weapons.

This is a decisive phase. Our main task is to preempt the enemy in conducting nuclear strikes.

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

Fundamentals in the Preparation and Conduct of an Offensive Operation by a Front and Army

General Principles in the Preparation and Conduct of an Offensive Operation

I. 1. The Roles, Objectives, Tasks and Scale of an Offensive Operation of the Front and Army and Factors Which Determine Them

The role of the offensive operation by the front is dependent on:

- the theater in which it is fought
- the axis of the operation
- the objective of the operation
- which enemy is involved
- The objectives, tasks and scale of the offensive operation of the front (army) depend on:
 - . their role in the strategic (front) operation
 - . the tasks to be accomplished by strategic nuclear weapons, operational and tactical units, and other branches of service
 - . the operational situation and the combat capabilities of the front (army) troops
 - . the grouping of enemy forces and weapons and the possible nature of his actions, as well as
 - . the physical-geographical characteristics of the theater of war
 - . the characteristics of the political situation
- The combat capabilities of the front are characterized by
 - . nuclear weapons
 - depth of employment by the front 400 km and more
 - depth of employment by the army up to 200 km and more
 - . the front (army) is able to attack vigorously all targets which will not be attacked by strategic nuclear weapons.

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

- The front has at its disposal:
 - . 2000 to 8000 tanks
 - . 1500 to 8000 combat vehicles and armored personnel carriers
 - . 1000 to 1600 tanks in the army
 - . The front (army) is capable of inflicting a serious setback on the enemy through the use of conventional and chemical weapons.
 - . The front disposes of powerful weapons to combat the enemy air forces. It is capable of simultaneously destroying hundreds of enemy air targets
 - . The front has means to ensure
 - the reconnoitering of the enemy
 - radio-electronic combat
 - combat engineer preparation
 - material-technical support
 - . Uniform and uninterrupted direction increases the effectiveness of the front and army.
- The objective of the offensive operation of the front is based on the following factors:
 - . the destruction of the enemy's most important groupings of
 - rocket troops
 - air forces
 - ground forces
 - in the entire depth of the operation.
 - . the frustration of his mobilization capabilities.
 - . the seizure of important installations and areas on the strategic axis of the theater of war.
- The scale of the offensive operation of the front and army can vary considerably, depending on:
 - . the extent of employment of strategic nuclear forces
 - . the combat strength of the front and army

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- . the strength, weapons and character of enemy activities
- . the characteristics of the theater of war, and
- . political considerations.

The scale of the offensive operation by the front

- depth 500 - 1000 km and more
- average tempo of offensive 60 - 80 km and more
- duration 10 - 15 days
- width of zone 200 - 500 km

The scale of the offensive operation:

- of a combined-arms army
 - . depth 200 - 500 km
 - . average tempo of offensive 60 - 80 km (40 - 50 km)
 - . duration 4 - 5 days up to 7 - 8 days
 - . width 80 - 150 (200) km
- of a tank army
 - . depth 500 - 1000 km
 - . average tempo of offensive 100 km and more

There is a difference between the tasks of a combined-arms and a tank army.

Reasons:

- The tank army attacks on the main axis of the front
- To support it are employed
 - . 30 to 40 percent of all nuclear weapons
 - . 80 percent of aircraft missions
- It receives the majority of
 - . reconnaissance forces and equipment
 - . artillery
 - . combat engineers
 - . chemical troops

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

-20-

- Engaged on its axis are
 - . airborne troops
 - . the reserves and second-echelon troops of the front
- It is backed up by
 - . personnel replacements
 - . equipment and technical reserves
- A combined-arms army can accomplish the same tasks as the tank army if
 - . it attacks on the main axis of the front
 - . it is supported by the same troops and equipment as the tank army, particularly nuclear weapons and airborne troops.

To achieve the objective of the operation,

- . the front (army) is usually assigned:
- tasks for the first nuclear strike
- the initial tasks
- the subsequent tasks.

Tasks for the first nuclear strike might include:

- the destruction of the enemy's operational-tactical nuclear weapons so as
 - . to prevent their use against the troops of the front and installations in the hinterland,
 - . to enable decisive combat of major enemy groupings, his air forces, and air defense weapons,
 - . to effect the destruction of the enemy's command and control posts as well as rear service installations,

and thus create favorable conditions for the rapid annihilation of the enemy in the course of the operation.

The armies of the first echelon participate in the first nuclear strike of the front. Also brought in are army rocket brigades and the rocket elements of the units of the first echelon of the armies.

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

CSDB-312/01433-70

-21-

The immediate task of the front consists of:

- the commencement of the offensive on land and in the air immediately following the first nuclear strike with strategic weapons.
- the completion of the destruction, or the destruction of opposing enemy groupings, including his nuclear weapons.
- the seizure of those areas and installations whose capture disrupts the operational integrity of the enemy
- the creation of favorable conditions for further development of the attack deeper into the theater of war.

The depth of the immediate task can be: 200 - 500 km.

The follow-up task of the front may include:

- the destruction of newly detected enemy nuclear weapons
- the completion of the destruction, or the destruction, of his strategic reserves
- the seizure of those areas and installations whose capture fulfills the objective of the operation.

The depth can be 300 - 500 km or more, depending on the overall depth of the operation.

The objective of an offensive operation by a combined-arms army will usually be:

- the ultimate destruction of opposing enemy groupings and their nuclear weapons in the entire depth of their operational deployment.
- the seizure of important areas and installations in the zone of the army up to a depth where the immediate task of the front is fulfilled, and
- the creation of favorable conditions for the conduct of follow-up operations by the army.

The objective of the follow-up operation by the combined-arms army will usually be:

- the destruction of newly detected enemy nuclear weapons
- the destruction or completion of the destruction of enemy reserves in the depth
- the seizure of areas and installations whose capture fulfills the follow-up task of the front.

TS # 199999

Copy # _____

CSDB-312/01433-70

-22-

The depth for a combined-arms army:

- the immediate task 100 - 300 km
- the follow-up task 100 - 300 km

When operations of a tank army and a combined-arms army are conducted in the entire depth of the front operation, their immediate and follow-up tasks in the depth can coincide with corresponding tasks of the front. In army activities on a coastal axis, the front and army may have other tasks:

- the destruction of the coastal grouping
- the seizure of the belt/sound zone, the islands, naval bases and ports
- defense against landings.

Based on the foregoing it can be stated that the objectives, tasks and scale of the offensive operation of the front, as well as the substance and depth of the immediate and follow-up task will in each case be determined by:

- the concrete conditions of the situation in the theater of war
- the political, and
- the physical and geographical considerations.

2. Coordination Between Troops of the Front, Strategic Rocket Troops, Long-Range Air Forces, Air Defense Troops, Fleets, Adjacent Fronts, and Airborne Troops in the Conduct of an Offensive Operation Immediately Following the Nuclear Strike

By coordination we mean:

- the coordination of nuclear strikes and combat activities by the troops according to targets and time in the interest of achieving the overall objective of the operation.

We differentiate between:

- the strategic
- the operational, and
- the tactical cooperation.

The General Staff is responsible for the organization of strategic coordination.

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

-23-

- The organization of coordination is the most important function of the staffs at all levels, from the General Staff down to the regiment.
- The requirement for establishing a system of coordination is spelled out in our basic military doctrine.
- The most important stipulations of military doctrine on this are:
 - . To fulfill the tasks, the efforts of all branches of the service are required.
 - . Massive strikes must be inflicted on the opponent simultaneously in the entire depth of the theater of war.
 - . Troops must be trained and coordination established in a manner which will make it possible to repel an enemy surprise attack (that an enemy surprise attack is prevented).
- The modern offensive operation requires detailed plans for coordination not only within the front (army) but also
 - . coordinated activities of the troops of the front (army) with
 - . operational elements of other branches of service, and
 - . the adjacent fronts.
- The activities have to be closely coordinated according to
 - . tasks
 - . targets
 - . areas
 - . timing
 - . methods of action.
- The main guidelines for cooperation will be
 - . set by the commander of the front, and will find concrete application
 - . in the plan for the offensive operation,
 - . in the plans for combat employment of arms of service, and

TS # 199999

Copy # _____

~~TOP SECRET~~

CSDB-312/01433-70

-24-

. in the plan for combat activity of the air army.

The content of the coordination is:

- precisely coordinated conduct of nuclear strikes according to time and place
- coordination of all measures for the protection of troops from enemy nuclear strikes
- coordination of all measures to ensure rapid attack immediately following the nuclear strike, so as to complete the destruction of the enemy and seizure of selected areas and installations
- A particularly precise plan for coordination must be organized for:
 - . the conduct of the first nuclear strike
 - . defense against nuclear surprise attack by the enemy, and
 - . the conduct of the first operation by the fronts in cooperation with airborne and amphibious troops.
- The main element in the organization of cooperation is:
 - . the coordination of strikes by nuclear forces and weapons according to target and time, and
 - . the coordination of the activities of attacking troops to exploit the effects of the nuclear strike for the completion of the destruction of the enemy.
- The coordination is organized according to:
 - . tasks
 - . axes
 - . targets and timefor the entire depth of the offensive operation by the front, above all in the interests of the groupings which are performing the most important tasks.
- In preparing the operation, the commander of the front organizes coordination between:
 - . the armies of the first echelon
 - . the armies of the first and second echelon
 - . the rocket troops
 - . the air forces

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

CSDB-312/01433-70

-25-

- . the national air defense troop and air defense capabilities, and
- . the airborne and amphibious troops.
- The coordination is organized in a manner which assures that:
 - . the employment of nuclear weapons results in a decisive defeat for the enemy, and
 - . friendly troops are protected from radiation.
- Furthermore, it is very important that:
 - . activities of the front (army) are coordinated with
 - . operational (tactical) units of other branches of service, and
 - . other fronts (armies).
- The coordination is organized:
 - . in time of peace
 - . at the beginning of the war,and is refined during the course of the operation.
- It is the creative work of the commander of the front and the chief-of-staff.

Coordination of the Troops of the Front with Strategic Rocket Troops

- The first nuclear strike by strategic rockets is determined by the political leadership.
- The High Command determines the line of employment of strategic nuclear rockets. (Usually 200 - 300 km from the front in the western theater of war--the Rhine.)
- Up to this line, the front conducts strikes with its own nuclear weapons.
- In the course of the offensive this line is advanced.
- The Supreme High Command passes on general tasks to the front commander.
- Close cooperation by all participants in the first nuclear strike is essential.

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

~~TOP SECRET~~

- Requirements of the first nuclear strike:

The first nuclear strike must be -

- . a surprise
- . of maximum force
- . as brief as possible, and
- . flexible.

- Based on these requirements it would be ideal if the first nuclear strike could be conducted simultaneously.

- Nominally the first nuclear strike takes about 9 1/2 hours.

- The sequence of the first nuclear strike:

- . salvo by strategic rocket troops
- . salvo by submarines which are in position
- . first launch of long-range aircraft
- . salvo of operational-tactical rockets
- . first launch of aircraft of the front.

In the course of the war, the first nuclear strike may also be carried out differently.

Coordination by Troops of the Front with Long-Range Air Forces

- The commander of the front and the chief of staff must know:

- . the tasks of the long-range air forces
- . the timing and yield of nuclear weapons to be employed
- . manner, time, and zone of the overflight

- The front profits by the nuclear strikes and protects the overflight.

- The front

- . neutralizes enemy radar equipment
- . destroys his antiaircraft missiles

TS # 199999

Copy # _____

~~TOP SECRET~~

CSDB-312/01433-70

-27-

- . combats his fighter aircraft forces
- . provides cover for overflights in the zone of troop air defense of the front.
- If flights of long-range air forces are allocated to the front, the cooperation consists of:
 - . allocation of targets to be destroyed
 - . determination of the time for the conduct of strikes by forces and weapons of the front and those of
 - . units of the long-range air forces.
- An operational group of the long-range air force may work in the staff of the front.
- Plans for coordination will be refined in the course of the operation, based on the concrete situation and the actions of the enemy.

A very important factor is:

- the neutralization of the enemy's air defense weapons.
- the following exist on West German territory:
 - . 612 launchers "Nike-Hercules"
 - . 600 launchers "Hawk"
 - . 12 launchers "Thunderbird"
 - . 300 fighter-interceptors
- a total of over 1500 units
- besides troop air defense.
- all antiaircraft rocket bases are located at a distance of 70 - 100 km from the border.
- their range permits attack of targets beyond the border from sites located in the hinterland.
- during World War II the rule was not to launch flights if there was a danger of losing 5 - 10 percent of the aircraft.
- today the enemy's weapons of air defense must be neutralized and destroyed with the first strike.

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

CSDB-312/01433-70

-28-

Coordination of Troops of the Front with Troops of Air Defense

- Coordination is organized primarily for the purpose of defending against a surprise enemy air attack at the beginning of the war.
- It stipulates:
 - . the manner and methods of giving warning of the presence of the air enemy
 - . the limits of responsibility
 - . the zones in which air defense forces, anti-aircraft rocket troops, and fighter aircraft will transfer target responsibilities in the interests of the front
 - . the command of forces and weapons employed.
- Furthermore, there must be stipulated:
 - . the sequence of combat activity by fighter aircraft of the front and air defense forces in the zone of activity of rocket troops.
 - . the sequence of transfer of targets
 - . the sequence of cooperation in the course of the operation.
- Difficulties arise when air defense troops of the front advance at the beginning of the operation.
- Air defense troops must displace their line of activities 100 - 200 km forward:
 - . by moving the second line forward and covering lines of communication, bridges, etc.
 - . the front must move forward
 - . air defense troops provide cover behind the front.
- Coordination by operational groups of air defense in the combat zone of the front.
- Important is:

Close coordination between air defense troops of the front and air defense of the country.

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

~~TOP SECRET~~

- In the Central European theater of war the following can be employed:

2000 tactical aircraft,
including 800 carrier aircraft

- In the zone of the front

1000 to 2000 aircraft
including 400 carrier aircraft

- 700 - 750 aircraft can participate in the first strike in the zone of the front

- Air forces from the western theater of war require 1 hour --

- from the USA -- 6 hours

- The width of the air attack:

. in nuclear warfare 400 - 500 km
. in non-nuclear warfare 50 - 80 km

- Operations at low altitudes:

. half of all equipment operates at altitudes of 50 - 150 meters

Coordination by Troops of the Front with Naval Forces

- In the interest of achieving the objectives of the operation and accomplishing the tasks of the front, close coordination with naval forces is organized when conducting an offensive operation on a coastal axis.

- On a coastal axis, the fleet can fulfill tasks independently or jointly with the front.

- In joint operations the following must be coordinated:

. operations during the first nuclear strike
. operations in defense against the air enemy
. operations connected with joint tasks, e.g., seizure of naval bases, ports, and the belt/sound zone.

Important is:

The employment of amphibious troops and the organization of defenses against landings.

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

- The front must know how the naval forces fulfill the tasks of:
 - . destroying the enemy's aircraft carriers and missile carriers and
 - . disrupting the enemy's sea lines of communications.
- An operational group of the naval forces is assigned to the front.
- Liaison officers can be assigned to armies and even to divisions.

Coordination of Troops of the Front with Adjacent Fronts

- Cooperation between fronts is organized so as to support that front:
 - . which is employed on the main axis, and
 - . which fulfills the main tasks for the destruction of the enemy in the strategic operation in the theater of war.
- The commander of the front must be familiar with the tasks of the adjacent fronts and coordinate his activities with theirs.
- The following must be coordinated:
 - . the sequence for the conduct of the first nuclear strike
 - . the defense against enemy air attack
 - . the timing of the transition of troops to the offensive
 - . the manner of accomplishing tasks, especially as regards the employment of nuclear weapons, and
 - . operations on the flanks.

Important:

The manner and methods for coordinated movement of forces and weapons of cooperating fronts.

- They can include:
 - . movement of rocket troops
 - . movement of air forces of fronts

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

-31-

- . movement of assault troops into the zone of the adjacent front to conduct strikes in the rear and on the flanks of the enemy and to overcome contaminated areas, as well as
- . communications for coordination, the method and type of alert warning, and
- . operational groups with reconnaissance means.

Coordination of Troops of the Front with Airborne Troops

The following must be determined:

- the time and place of landing of airborne troops
- the targets for them to seize or destroy in support of attacking troops
- the timing, targets and methods of conducting strikes by rocket troops and front air forces
- the methods of activity by airborne troops.

Furthermore:

- the timing of the advance of troops of the army into the area where airborne troops will be landed
- the nature of their activities after they join up.

The following must be coordinated:

- the means and manner of protection and support by air forces in the accomplishment of the tasks
- the establishment of joint communications and other measures.

Important:

- Constant collaboration with the airborne troops.

Peculiarities of an Offensive on a Coastal Axis:

1. The forces and weapons participating in the operation must destroy not only opposing groupings of the ground and air forces but also the enemy naval forces.

This requires that the operation be conducted jointly by the front, army and navy and that their coordination is precisely organized.

2. The coastal axis is distinguished by a multitude of rivers, swampy areas, islands, straits and areas subject to flooding.

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

~~TOP SECRET~~

CSDB-312/01433-70

-32-

3. Operations are conducted with an exposed sea flank.
4. The complexity of operations of the air forces and rocket troops.

Peculiarities of an Offensive in Mountains

1. The attack is carried out on a single axis. The terrain is marked by sharp differences in relief and variety of climatic conditions.
2. The combat zone is wider, troops are less densely concentrated, the operation is less deep and progress is slower.
3. The complexity of preparing the departure areas for the attack and for basing the air forces.
4. The reduction of signal range by 50 percent. The increase of the shock and light radiation range.
5. Rocket troops are employed unit by unit, artillery is decentralized; reserves of technical and material means are increased by about 30 percent.

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

~~TOP SECRET~~

II. 1. Content and Tasks of the Preparation of an Offensive Operation by the Front and Army

- Under modern conditions, the role of the organizational activity of commanding officers, staffs, and chiefs of arms and services in the preparation of an offensive operation is increased.
- The preparation of an offensive operation of the front (army) consists of a complex of measures which are carried out by
 - . the military commanders
 - . the staffs
 - . the party-political organs, and
 - . the troops
- in scientifically based
 - . organization
 - . planning, and
 - . general ensuring of the success of the operation.

The most important measures:

- The decision-making and planning of the operation
- The assignment of tasks to the troops
- The preparation of forces and weapons for the first nuclear strike
- The preparation of measures to defend against an enemy surprise attack
- The maintenance of high combat readiness of the troops
- The organization of cover, rapid deployment and immediate transition to the offensive
- Reconnaissance
- The establishment of command posts and systems of communication
- The organization of the rear service, accumulation and echeloning of materiel reserves
- The preparation of the theater of war.

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

- Measures in the preparation of an operation--their timing, sequence and overall execution, are dependent on:
 - . the time available
 - . the situation, and
 - . the character of the assigned task.
 - All measures are interdependent and are usually carried out simultaneously.
 - All measures in the preparation of an operation have to be constantly refined in accordance with new information.
 - Preparations for an offensive operation by the front can be made:
 - . in time of peace
 - . in the period of tension
 - . in the surprise onset of war operations
 - . in the course of a war
 - In times of peace sufficient time is available.
 - In the event of a surprise attack, time is extremely limited (some measures will have to be carried out in the course of the attack).
 - In the course of the war, the commanders and the staff fulfill two tasks:
 - . command of the troops
 - . preparation of a new operation.
- There is usually very little time available.
- The offensive operation is prepared at the direction of the High Command. The preparation takes place in accordance with the overall appraisal of the theater of war. The High Command's instructions usually include:
 - . The objective of the impending operation and the tasks of the front.
 - . The forces and means available to carry out the operation.

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

. The main aspects of the coordination with

- strategic rocket troops
- long-range air forces
- air defense forces
- adjacent fronts

as well as the type and manner of support of the operation.

. In addition, there can be stipulated:

- the tasks and targets of the first nuclear strike of the front
- the organization of defense against a surprise enemy attack
- the coordination with the naval forces and airborne troops.

. The offensive operation is prepared by a limited number of persons

- in the military district 14 persons
- in the army 3 persons

- The content of measures for the preparation of an operation can vary.

- The supervision and support by the command and staff of the front are important.

2. Decision-Making and Planning of the Offensive Operation

- The decision is basic to the implementation of all measures for the preparation and conduct of the operation.

- The commander makes the decision personally with the assistance of the staff and other commanders.

- On the basis of the decision, all work of the staff is carried out.

- Of special importance to the staff are:

- . timeliness
- . precision
- . clarity of the tasks

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

- . operational foresight
- . correct determination of the enemy's intentions.
- The methods of decision-making can vary, and they depend on the concrete situation
 - . at the time, and
 - . after refinement of the tasks.

Important:

One must strive to reach a decision as soon as possible.

Therefore one must:

- know the position of one's own troops and those of the enemy.
- have a thorough assessment of the situation.
- be able to carry out quick calculations, especially those affecting the conduct of the nuclear strike.
- relay decisions with brevity and clarity and assign appropriate tasks to the troops.
- the staff of the front plays an important role:
 - . Not only is timeliness in decision-making important, but the combat tasks have to be relayed to those who will fulfill them. This is the function of the staff.
 - . Concurrent work is expedient.
- After receipt of the directive from the High Command, the decision-making process takes about 4.5 to 5 hours.
- Content of the Decision
 - . the concept of the operation
 - . tasks of the nuclear weapons, especially for the first nuclear strike
 - . tasks of the armies of the first and second echelon
 - . tasks of the airborne troops
 - . tasks of the rocket troops
 - . tasks of the air army

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

- . tasks of troop air defense
- . tasks of the reserves
- . the organization of liaison, support, and command.
- The concept has to be based on the nuclear strikes and has to express the sense of the decision.
- In the concept are established:
 - . which enemy grouping has to be destroyed--where and by what means--to achieve the objective of the operation
 - . which nuclear strikes have to be carried out where
 - . which, and how many groupings of the ground forces have to be formed
 - . on which axes they must be employed
 - . the operational build-up.

The decision has to be comprehensively based.

The planning of the offensive operation is one of the most important elements in the preparation of the offensive operation.

- The planning is based on:
 - . extensive estimates of contingencies
 - . concrete and exact analyses
 - . the real situation.

Decision-making and planning are creative processes.

The essence of planning lies in choosing the most effective variant for the employment of troops and weapons for timely fulfillment of the assigned tasks and achievement of the objective of the operation; the variant chosen must conform with the concept and the decision.

In the plan of the operation are worked out in detail:

- the methods of conducting the operation
- the methods of destroying the enemy
- the measures for coordination
- the measures for overall support

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

- the measures for troop control.

The planning is based on the possible effects of the nuclear strikes.

- Furthermore, the planning takes into consideration:

- . the tasks of adjacent fronts
- . the tasks of the national air defense
- . the tasks of the fleet.

- Major elements of planning are:

- . the employment of nuclear weapons, especially in the first nuclear strike
- . the establishment of assault groupings
- . the organization of coordination
- . the maintenance of high combat readiness:
 - company--15 minutes
 - battalion--25 minutes
 - regiment--50 minutes
 - division--90 minutes
- . comprehensive support.

- The offensive operation is planned according to tasks.

Details are worked out for:

- the employment of forces and weapons for the conduct of the first nuclear strike
- defense against enemy surprise attack
- the combat operations for the first 1 - 2 - 3 days
- the protection of troops
- The planning for the immediate task is approximate
- Numerous operational and technical calculations are required,
- It is important to create a favorable balance of strength between

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

- . nuclear weapons
 - . air forces
 - . tanks and artillery.
 - In this, the results of nuclear strikes by both sides have to be considered.
 - The armies usually formulate similar plans. The only difference is that the immediate task is planned in terms of days. Details are worked out for the first day.
 - In the planning, nuclear mines must be taken into consideration.
 - Safety zones 20 - 30 km
 - Nuclear mines in the Federal Republic - 800 - 1000
which means: 350 - 500 in the zone of the front
50 - 70 in the zone of the army.
 - Measures for the protection of the troops
 - . The protection must be complex.
 - . The breakdown of possible losses
 - from nuclear weapons 55%
 - from chemical weapons 17%
 - from conventional means 22%
 - from biological means 5%
 - from accidents and illness 3%
 - There exists only one plan for the operation.
3. Measures to Insure Constant Readiness of the Troops to Achieve Surprise with the First Nuclear Strike and with the Shift to the Offensive
- Constant combat readiness is the most important requirement in times of peace as well as in war.
 - Adherence to this requirement is especially important in an offensive operation.
 - It is basic to the achievement of surprise.
 - The commanding officer is the direct organizer of all measures for combat readiness.

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

- Important: Even in time of peace to establish appropriate groupings of one's troops. This applies particularly to the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany and the National Peoples Army.
- Good organization of all measures for alerts and good field training ensures success.
- Preparation of the territories of the countries of the theater of war.
- Preparation of the rocket troops, air forces and air defense.
- Readiness of command organs. Timely preparation of a system of control points.

Surprise in the conduct of the first nuclear strike is achieved by:

- Conduct of nuclear strikes against garrisons
- Frustration of the enemy's surprise attack
- Time for the first nuclear strike:
 - . for rockets--5 minutes
 - . for air forces--30 minutes
- Covert advance of the troops to the national borders.
- Operational camouflage and other measures.

Conduct of the First Nuclear Strike and Methods for Shifting the Troops to the Offensive

- The planning and conduct of the first nuclear strike require special attention.
- The first nuclear strike is conducted in accordance with the plan prepared in advance.
- The timely conduct of the first nuclear strike is the decisive factor in the successful shift to the offensive.
- The first nuclear strike can be conducted
 - . against garrisons (5 - 8 strikes per division)
 - . against groupings in movement (8 - 15 strikes per division).
- One has to be prepared to conduct the first nuclear strike in any situation, even under surprise attack by the enemy.

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

Methods for the Shift to the Offensive

1. On direct contact
2. In motion
 - In the western theater of war, usually while in motion:
 - Including: - from garrisons
 - from assembly areas
 - from training areas
 - from alert assembly areas.
 - Assembly Areas
 - . 40 - 70 km from the border
 - . area for each division 600 sq. km
 - . area for each regiment 100 sq. km
 - Sectors
 - . departure line
 - . adjustment sector
 - . 8 - 12 km deployment sector for battalion columns
 - . 4 - 6 km deployment sector for company columns
 - . 2 - 3 km deployment sector for platoon columns
 - . assault departure line
 - The most advantageous but most difficult method of shifting to an offensive is from garrison.
 - Important: The number of exit routes available from the installation.

4. The Planning of the First Nuclear Strike of the Front

- The questions relating to the employment of nuclear weapons are most important in the activity of the High Command and the staff. The employment of nuclear weapons in the first nuclear strike is planned in detail:
 - . and includes data on specific targets, yield, type of burst, delivery vehicle, and timing.

TS # 199999

Copy # _____

~~TOP SECRET~~

CSDB-312/01433-70

-42-

- Very important: Post-strike reconnaissance
- The most important targets have to be chosen for the first nuclear strike.
- Important: Sequence and security
- Of great significance:
 - . coordination with strategic rocket troops
 - . knowledge of the line (250 km)
- The expedient variant for the first nuclear strike:
 - . When the first launching of operational-tactical rockets and the takeoff of air forces of the front coincide with the first nuclear strike by strategic rocket troops, this makes surprise possible.
- Important: Conduct the attack in a short period of time.
- Expedient: Launch of rockets and first takeoff of air forces simultaneously.
- The Make-Up and Duration of the First Nuclear Strike Depend on How the War Begins
- The first nuclear strike can be carried out according to three variants:
 1. We can preempt the enemy and strike (either from garrisons or by moving up troops).
 2. Simultaneous nuclear strikes (meeting engagements).
 3. The enemy strike precedes ours and we conduct the retaliatory strike.
- Duration can be:
 - . up to five minutes for rocket troops
 - . up to thirty minutes for air forces
- One must consider:
 - . 60 - 70 percent strikes by rocket troops
 - . 30 - 40 percent strikes by air forces

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

~~TOP SECRET~~

- How the plan for the first nuclear strike is prepared:

- . on a map with the scale 1 : 500,000
- . graphic chart of the first nuclear strike
- . commentary

- Plan for nuclear weapons:

- . first nuclear strike 30 percent
- . immediate task 40 percent
- . follow-up task 20 percent
- . reserve 5 - 10 percent

5. Methods of Conducting the Offensive Operation of the Front and Army and the Destruction of Strong Enemy Groupings

By methods of conducting the operation we mean:

- The manner and means of employing forces and weapons to achieve the overall objective of the operation.

- Methods:

- . conduct of nuclear strikes
- . conduct of massive strikes by the air forces and artillery
- . encirclement
- . meeting combat engagements

- The main method is:

- . a composite of all methods for the destruction of the enemy.

Means of Destroying Strong Enemy Groupings

- Strong groupings are those groupings of forces and weapons which are decisive in a front (army) operation.

- A front of up to two army corps

- An army of up to two divisions

- Methods:

- . with only nuclear weapons

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

~~TOP SECRET~~

CSDB-312/01433-70

-44-

- . Conduct of nuclear strikes and immediate troop offensive
- . Employment of conventional weapons of destruction and operations of combined-arms (tank) units.

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

~~TOP SECRET~~

III. 1. Objective and Tasks of the Offensive Operation of the Front and Army, Combat Capabilities of the Front and Army. Scale of the Offensive Operation Without Employment of Nuclear Weapons

The objective and tasks are usually determined by the Supreme High Command--commanders of the front.

The following must be considered:

- the combat capabilities of the troops of the front--army
- the tasks which are performed by units of other branches of service and adjacent elements
- the groupings of forces and weapons of the enemy
- the possible character of combat operations
- the possible manner and means and areas of the shift to the employment of nuclear weapons
- the importance of the operational axis of troops of the front and army.

The objectives may be:

- frustration of the enemy attack
- conducting a sufficiently severe strike against the enemy and seizing the most vital areas on the main axis of the operation, so as to create the most favorable conditions for the development of the offensive.

Tasks:

- the destruction of the most important groupings of the enemy first echelon and their nuclear weapons
- the destruction of the nuclear weapons and air forces
- the seizure of those areas which are essential for operational stability
- the immediate task
- the follow-up task.

Combat capabilities of the front and army:

- The major role belongs to the ground forces, in close coordination with

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

CSDB-312/01433-70

-46-

- . the air forces, and
- . the air defense troops.
- The most important means for the destruction of the enemy are:
 - . the air forces
 - . the artillery, and
 - . tanks.
- Air superiority is specially important.
- Capabilities:
 - . tanks 2 - 12 km
 - . regimental - divisional - artillery 12 km
 - . divisional - artillery 20 km
 - . army artillery 23 km
 - . artillery of the High Command Reserve 23 km
 - . fighter-bombers 250 km
 - . bombers 450 km
- The front can have an effect on the enemy:
 - . with bombers at 350 - 450 km
 - . with fighter-bombers at 150 - 250 km
 - . with massed artillery at 10 - 20 km
- The equipping of troops with
 - . tanks, combat vehicles and armored personnel carriers
- The creation of strong assault groupings
- The troops of the front can carry out strikes:
 - . on two, and often on three, axes.
- The depth of the strikes can be 350 - 450 km.

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

The scale of the operation:

- Tempo of attack
 - . by breakthrough of the defense 20 - 30 km
 - . in the depth of the defense up to 50 km
 - . average tempo 35 - 40 km
- Duration
 - . 10 - 12 days
- Width of the zone
 - . 200 - 500 km
- Depth of the operation
 - . 350 - 450 km

2. The Planning of an Offensive by Troops of the Front and Army

- The preparation for an offensive operation by the front (army) without employment of nuclear weapons is made simultaneously with the preparation for an operation with employment of nuclear weapons.
- Special emphasis is placed on:
 - . the creation of assault groupings
 - . the employment of the front air forces, both to gain air superiority and to support the attack
 - . the employment of artillery
 - . the employment of tank troops jointly with air forces and airborne troops
 - . the organization of troop air defense of the front
 - . materiel support, especially with munitions and fuel.

Decision-Making

- The concept is different from that of an operation with employment of nuclear weapons.
- The decision must:
 - . guarantee the relevance and effectiveness of the activities of all forces and weapons

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

~~TOP SECRET~~

CSDB-312/01433-70

-48-

- . frustrate attempts by the enemy to engage in forms of position warfare
 - . preempt the enemy through one's own operations
 - . insure the constant readiness of nuclear weapons employment means, and
 - . assure the strong protection of one's own troops against the enemy's weapons of mass destruction.
 - In the planning, we proceed from the overall plan for the offensive operation with and without employment of nuclear weapons.
 - There must be coordination in detail:
 - . of the employment of air forces and artillery, with the operations of motorized rifle and tank troops.
 - It is useful to plan the operation by the day.
 - Planning for the following must be particularly detailed:
 - . the moving up
 - . the deployment
 - . the transition of the troops to the offensive.
 - The shift of the troops to the offensive must be
 - . unexpected
 - . simultaneous with, or
 - . immediately following, the strikes by the air forces.
 - The creation of assault groupings is important.
- Questions of planning:
- air forces
 - artillery
 - tank armies and combined-arms armies
 - airborne troops
 - phasing of efforts (second echelon and reserves)
 - troop air defense

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

~~TOP SECRET~~

- high readiness of nuclear missiles (requires establishment of a special group to work out precise details of the plan)
- protection of the troops
- support
- operational camouflage

The creation of assault groupings:

- Strong assault groupings, with superiority over the enemy, are of great significance.
- They are created at the last moment and, if possible, in the course of the operation.
- A danger--nuclear strikes by the enemy.

The creation of assault groupings must be based on the use of the maneuver capabilities of the troops.

The grouping must insure:

- frustration of an enemy surprise attack
- defense against an enemy breakthrough
- the conduct of the strike, before one by the enemy, is directed at his main groupings.

Methods of conducting the operation:

- The methods for the conduct of the operation are based on experiences gained during the Great Fatherland War.

The main methods can be:

- The conduct of two, sometimes three, strikes to splinter the enemy
- The destruction of the enemy unit by unit
- The conduct of strikes to encircle and destroy the enemy.

Thus, we can specify three methods:

1. Conduct of the strike with adjoining flanks of armies.
2. Conduct of two strikes by armies on adjoining axes.
3. Conduct of strikes on separate axes.

- The main method of conducting the army operation is:
 - . to conduct the attack on one or two axes,
 - . jointly or in coordination with adjacent armies.

In choosing any of the possible variants it is important to:

- concentrate the efforts of the air forces, artillery, tank and motorized rifle troops
- in collaboration with airborne and amphibious troops, to create breaches 30 - 50 km in width.

Methods of destroying the enemy.

- The destruction of enemy groupings is achieved by:
 - . massive strikes by air forces
 - . fire by artillery
 - . effective operations of the troops with utilization of airborne troops.

It can include:

- preparatory activity by air and artillery forces, or
- be limited to attacks by the air forces and artillery.

High density in a short time period is necessary.

Rapid advance into the depth

- strikes on the flanks and rear
- destruction unit by unit

Readiness to conduct the first strike.

Employment of airborne troops.

Organization of troop air defense.

Measures for the protection of the troops:

- meeting engagements
- preemption of the enemy in air and artillery attacks
- envelopment--flanking movement
- strikes on the flanks and in the rear
- utilization of the second echelon and reserves.

TS # 199999 .
Copy # _____

3. Shift to the Offensive by Troops of the Front and Army

The most important conditions for the successful conduct of the offensive are:

- decisive concentration of efforts of the troops on the main axis
- effective suppression of the enemy
- skillful employment of assault forces, especially of the tank army and tank division
- rapid advance into the depth
- use of maneuver capabilities to the breaking point
- quick changes of battle order and axes of combat operations
- employment of airborne troops
- destruction of the enemy's nuclear weapons
- disorganization of command and the rear services.

There are three possible variants:

1. We preempt the enemy--the best variant.
2. We and the enemy begin combat activities simultaneously.
3. The enemy preempts us--the worst variant.

The success of the offensive depends on:

- timely and complete readiness
- the organization of combat commitment
- the deployment and bold shift to the offensive
- rapid seizure of the initiative, and
- the achievement of air superiority.

It is in all cases necessary:

- to conduct surprise strikes against the enemy in order to destroy his main groupings in the zone near the border
- to be constantly ready to defend against a surprise enemy attack.

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

Destruction of the enemy in the zone near the border:

The basis of the destruction:

- strikes by air forces and artillery
- rapid attack by motorized rifle and tank troops
- with direct support through combat activities of the air forces and artillery.

It is possible:

- that preparatory fire by artillery and air forces is conducted, or that
- only strikes by air forces and fire concentrations by artillery are carried out.

Depending on the situation--air and artillery support of the troops is organized.

Important:

- superiority
- to preempt the enemy in opening fire and conducting air attacks
- meeting engagements, envelopment, flanking movement.

Development of the offensive depends on the activities of the enemy:

- does a security zone exist (20 - 40 km deep)
- advance detachments
- defense near the state border (breakthrough)
- defense in depth.

Always take advantage of gaps in the defense.

The security zone must:

- be overcome by movement of advance detachments

It is expedient to employ airborne troops.

Prepared defenses must be:

- encircled, bypassed or
- broken through (this demands, however, careful preparation).

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

Reconnaissance and activities of the air forces and artillery play a large role.

Attacks into the depth of enemy territory require:

- advance at high speed
- frustration of enemy attempts to organize a defense.

This requires:

- good reconnaissance
- powerful strikes by air forces.

Important:

- timely destruction of the enemy reserves
- defense against strong counterattacks and strikes by air forces.

Methods:

- frustration of the counterattack
- meeting engagement
- temporary shift to the defense

in order to destroy with the aid of the air forces, the second echelon and the reserves, the enemy groupings which are conducting the counterattack.

Main Tasks:

- rapid development of the offensive in the depth and on other axes
- the prevention of nuclear strikes, and assignment of concrete tasks to the troops.

4. Shift from the Conduct of an Offensive with Conventional Weapons Only to an Offensive with Nuclear Weapons Employment

The shift to operations with employment of nuclear weapons is most likely if:

- the enemy has lost the initiative and lost important areas
- his main groupings have been destroyed
- his counter-operations are weak, and
- conditions are favorable for rapid attack by the troops of the front into the depth.

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

~~TOP SECRET~~

CSDB-312/01433-70

-54-

The shift represents a new phase in the development of the operation.

The organization of the first nuclear strike in the course of combat operations will differ from that of the first nuclear strike at the beginning of the war:

- the complexity of the situation
- constant change in the situation of the troops
- the troops of the first echelon are fully deployed and are in direct contact with the enemy
- tactical launchers are fully deployed.

Very important:

- to preempt the enemy or we suffer heavy losses
- the first nuclear strike has to be carried out at the first indication, in the shortest possible time, and has to destroy the enemy's operational and tactical nuclear weapons.

Important:

- the security of one's own troops
- measures for the protection of the troops.

Great significance:

- to precisely refine the tasks of the armies, the divisions, the airborne troops, the air defense troops, and the reserves.

A special group concerns itself constantly with these questions.

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

~~TOP SECRET~~

IV. 1. Control of Troops of the Front and Army in the Offensive Operation

Permanent readiness of control organs:

- A new approach to the main requirements of troop control is necessary
- The time factor plays a very important role
- The most important requirements are:
 - . mobility
 - . stability
 - . reliability
 - . flexibility
 - . high level of readiness

A high level of readiness is achieved through

- the timely preparation in peacetime of a system of control points and communications centers
- the rapid deployment to prepared areas for the assumption of troop control.

Special plans exist for this.

Important:

Good training of the personnel and ability to use modern technology under all conditions.

The front and army deploy:

<u>Front</u> --forward command post	30 - 40 km from the front
command post	80 -100 km from the front
rear command post	100 -150 km (close to the bases)

Army-- forward command post	20 km from the front
command post	40 - 60 km from the front
rear command post	close to the bases

Most important control point--command post.

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

The staffs are very large:

Front--700 - 800 men, exclusive of support and service groups and units.

Army--200 - 300 men, exclusive of support and service groups and units.

2. Control of Troops at the Beginning and in the Course of the Operation

By troop control we mean the constant creative activity of the commander of the front which involves

- organization of,
- preparation for, and
- execution of, an operation by troops under his command, and which is directed toward the precise and timely performance of the assigned tasks.
- Control includes:
 - . the maintenance of a high political-morale condition and constant combat readiness of the troops, especially rocket and air defense troops
 - . decision-making
 - . the assignment of tasks
 - . the organization of constant coordination
 - . the organization of support
 - . the constant control of the troops in the course of the operation
 - . the supervision of the fulfillment of tasks
 - . the organization of the rear services and other tasks, which are directed at the achievement of the objective of the operation.

The most important demands on control are:

- constant readiness of control organs to control the troops under any conditions
- operational action
- control with

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

- . reliability,
- . stability, and
- . flexibility.
- The entire system of troop control is prepared in peacetime.
- Troop control in the first echelon must be able:
 - . to establish full combat readiness of troops and equipment of the front in a rapid and secure manner.
 - . to conduct the first surprise nuclear attack against the enemy.
 - . to defend against enemy surprise strikes.
 - . to organize the bringing-up and deployment of troops and decisive attack immediately following the first nuclear strike.

This requires constant high level of readiness of all troop control organs and means:

- . a system of communications with officers
- . the preparation in peacetime of concealed troop control system.

At the beginning of the war, troop control must be able:

- . to conduct the first nuclear strike
- . to defend against a surprise enemy attack
- . to instantly deploy and shift the troops to the attack, immediately after the first nuclear strike.

The methods of troop control and the work of the commander and the staff depend on the conditions of the outbreak of war.

The most important tasks of control organs in this period will be:

- the timely transmittal of the signal for the first nuclear attack
- the bringing-up and deployment of the troops
- the organization of reconnaissance and post [strike] reconnaissance of the enemy
- the checking of the fulfillment of assigned tasks.

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

CSDB-312/01433-70

-58-

Especially Important: To take measures to assure the security of a concealed and surprise first nuclear strike. The commander of the front has to assign these tasks personally.

Troop Control in the Course of the Offensive Operation

Important:

The proper organization and relocation of command posts.

- It must assure that the troop control functions of the commander are not interrupted for a moment.
- This is achieved through the establishment of several command posts; the front and army deploy: command posts, forward command posts, and rear command posts.

Front:

- forward command posts 30 - 40 km from the front line
- command posts 80 - 100 km or more from the
front line
- rear command posts close to the bases (100 - 150 km)

Army :

- forward command posts 20 km from the front line
- command posts 40 - 60 km from the front line
- rear command post close to the bases
- They are constructed according to combat engineer standards.

3. Means and Methods of Relocating Control Points

To assure uninterrupted control in the course of the offensive operation:

- the timely and well-organized relocation of control points and their rapid deployment to new areas are very important.

In the relocation, control must not be lost for a moment.

Relocations take place only if:

- the new location has been readied to combat engineer standards, and
- it is equipped with the necessary means of communication.

TS # 199999
Copy #

~~T O P - S E C R E T~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

CSDB-312/01433-70

-59-

The commander usually relocates accompanied by a group composed of heads of services and troop arms. During the period of transfer troop control is exercised by the chief of staff.

The relocation can be made by

- special helicopters equipped with means of communication
- special armored vehicles equipped with means of communication.

The distance of the relocation can vary:

command posts	150 - 200 km or more once in two or three days
forward command posts	50 - 100 km or less two or three times a day
rear command posts	depends on the situation of the rear services; by echelons (200-250 km)

Important: Never move control points during critical periods.

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

~~TOP SECRET~~

Combat Employment of Rocket Troops and Artillery in the
Offensive Operation of the Front and Army

1. Tasks of Rocket Troops and Artillery in the Offensive
Operation of the Front (Army) and Methods of Accom-
plishing Them

Tasks of rocket troops:

- In the course of the operation rocket troops constitute the major force in the destruction of the enemy.
- For this reason, rocket troops are maintained in constant combat readiness in peacetime.

Depending on their range, rocket troops can fulfill the following tasks:

1. destroy the enemy's nuclear weapons
2. combat the main groupings of his troops and reserves
3. disrupt his system of troop control
4. weaken his system of air defense and destroy his air forces on airfields
5. disrupt the planned work of the rear services
6. hamper the movement of enemy troops.

In an offensive operation of the front on a coastal axis, rocket troops can attack:

- assault groupings of the fleet
- amphibious troops
- naval bases.

The rocket troops fulfill their tasks in the course of the overall operation in accordance with the tasks fulfilled by the strategic rocket troops in the combat zone of the front (army), in close coordination with the air forces and artillery of the front.

By means of:

- individual,
- group, and
- massed nuclear strikes.

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

~~TOP SECRET~~

CSDB-312/01433-70

-61-

The most important principles of employment are:

1. The conduct of massive nuclear and chemical strikes against the enemy's main groupings and installations.
2. Extensive maneuver of rocket troops with nuclear and chemical strikes.
3. Continuous coordination of rocket troops of the front with
 - . strategic rocket troops
 - . rocket units and troop units of the army
 - . the air forces and artillery.
4. The conduct of nuclear strikes in conjunction with chemical weapons and artillery.
5. Continuous and flexible control of rocket troops and their strikes in the course of the operation.

Main principle:

- the rocket-nuclear weapons must be massively employed in the interest of fulfillment of the main task of the operation
- the assaults by rocket troops must be carried out in a surprising and timely fashion
- the appropriate yield of nuclear rockets must be chosen for the individual targets.

Extensive maneuver with

- strikes
- rocket troops, and
- rockets

has special significance.

The battle requirements:

- a division in a concentration area 6 - 7 rockets of 100 kilotons each
- one launching pad or aircraft on an airfield
 - 1 rocket of 40 - 100 kilotons
- one large control point 1 rocket of 100 kilotons

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

CSDB-312/01433-70

-62-

- one naval base
 - 1 rocket of 100 kilotons, or
 - 3 rockets of 10 - 20 kilotons

2. Constant, Increased, and Full Combat Readiness of Rocket Troops and Artillery. Measures to Achieve Increased and Full Combat Readiness of Rocket Troops and Artillery of the Front (Army)

Rocket troops are the major means to combat the enemy in the first nuclear strike.

- 60 percent rocket troops
- 40 percent air army

Their attack must follow the nuclear strike by strategic rocket troops as closely as possible to preempt the enemy in conducting his strikes.

Therefore:

Rocket troops are in constant combat readiness, i.e., they need not be mobilized prior to employment.

To assure constant combat readiness, the chief of rocket troops of the army--on orders from the commander--organizes:

- the storage of a specified supply of rockets, combat elements, and rocket fuels
- the timely selection of positioning areas, roads of approach and their topogeodetic preparation. Combat engineer work will not be carried out.
- good field training and a high level of political-morale condition.
- to cut down the time necessary to achieve full combat readiness, rocket troops can, in times of international tension, be placed in a state of increased combat readiness.
- In this, a number of measures are carried out:
 - . the fueling of carrier vehicles
 - . the delivery and preparation of rockets and combat elements in the units
 - . the transfer of the prepared rockets to launching pads
 - . the selection of rocket units to carry out combat duties and the occupation of the temporary launching positions
 - . the preparation of the control points for work.

TS # 199999

Copy # _____

~~TOP SECRET~~

CSDB-312/01433-70

-63-

(The rockets can be stored in an assembled condition for six months to a year.)

- The highest combat readiness is full combat readiness.
- Full combat readiness (VG) is a status of the rocket troops in which rocket troop units are in positioning areas, have appropriate tasks in accordance with the plan for the first nuclear strike, and are ready on signal to carry out the planned rocket launchings.
- VG can be attained from increased combat readiness (EG) as well as from a state of constant combat readiness.
- It begins with the alert and the occupation of the main position areas.
- After occupation of the main position areas there follow:
 - . a check of the topogeodetic preparations
 - . combat engineer preparation of the combat layout of rocket troop elements and units
 - . the organization of command
 - . the launching batteries are in main or launch positions in readiness number 3, 2, 2a or 1.
- Once the chief of rocket troops and artillery of the front knows the time set for the first nuclear strike, the launch batteries for which target coordinates are known are placed in readiness number 1; all others are in readiness number 2.
- Position areas for rockets, depending on the tasks of the first nuclear strike, can be located in the vicinity of their garrisons (at a distance of 10 to 20 km). (Two and a half to three hours are then needed to achieve launch readiness.)
- If the position areas are located near the border, then it requires 8 - 10 hours to achieve readiness, depending on the distance from the border.
- The distance of position areas from the front line:
 - . rockets of the front 40 - 60 km
 - . rockets of the army 30 - 40 km
 - . rockets of the division 15 - 20 km

TS # 199999

Copy # _____

~~TOP SECRET~~

CSDB-312/01433-70

-64-

- Position areas should not be on the same axis as the enemy main attack line.
- No other important installations may be located within the position areas.

The rockets may be maintained in state of readiness number 1 for 18 hours; however, after two hours they have to be brought to readiness state number 2 for 35 minutes in order subsequently to reach readiness state number 1 again.

When the time set for the first nuclear strike is not known or combat operations commence without employment of nuclear weapons, measures must be taken which ensure that the rocket troops are prepared to begin fulfilling their tasks at any time.

These measures are:

- the systematic refinement of target coordinates
- constant readiness of the command of rocket troop
- centralization of planning and relocation of the rocket troop of the front and army within the front
- centralization of planning and relocation of rocket elements of the divisions in the army
- in the plan for relocation, care must be taken to ensure that two-thirds of the launch batteries are ready at all times to conduct strikes
- during time periods of probable shift to nuclear war (breakthrough of the first line of defense, defense against a counterattack, the introduction of the second echelon), all batteries must be in launch readiness
- constant increase in the readiness state of the launch batteries, in accordance with the situation, and measures to ensure employment of the largest possible number of rockets in the first nuclear strike
- the systematic sounding of the atmosphere
- the organization of rapid replacement of losses
- the institution of measures to prevent unauthorized launches.

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

~~TOP SECRET~~

3. The Planning of Combat Employment of Rocket Troops and the Preparation of Strike with Nuclear and Chemical Rockets. The Participation of Rocket Troops of the Front (Army) in the First Nuclear Strike

The decision of the commander of the front forms the basis for planning the combat employment of the rocket troops.

In the preparation for combat employment, plans are made for:

- the conduct of the first nuclear strike
- the conduct of nuclear and chemical strikes in the course of the operation
- reconnaissance in support of the rocket troops
- combat against enemy nuclear weapons
- the build-up and deployment.

Planning is based on:

- the decision of the commander of the front
- the capabilities of each rocket unit and troop element
- the distances involved, and
- the yields of the charges.

Consideration is given to:

- coordination with strategic rocket troops and the air forces.

The decision of the commander specifies:

- the precise targets for nuclear rocket attack
- the expenditure of nuclear rockets
- their yield
- the type of burst for each target
- the expenditure of chemical rockets for various targets
- the time set for the strike or the times of readiness
- the coordination with air forces, artillery and attacking troops.

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

The strikes by the rocket troops are planned according to:

- time
- targets, and
- their garrison areas,

taking into consideration the strikes by strategic rocket troops and air forces of the front.

It must be considered that during the first nuclear strike, the enemy may be

- in his garrison areas
- in alert assembly areas
- in departure areas for the attack
- en route to the departure areas
- on the attack.

In peacetime the first nuclear strike is usually planned against garrison areas, since it is not known where the enemy assembly areas or departure areas for the attack are located.

The chief of rocket troops and artillery must be able to keep the commander informed at all times on:

1. the status of the rocket troops and the level of rocket supply
2. the potential targets for attack
3. the possible times for the readiness states
4. the means and methods of increasing readiness
5. the measures required for the organization of reconnaissance and post [strike] reconnaissance.

The staff of the rocket troops and artillery works out the plan for combat employment of the rocket troops and artillery.

For the front map 1 : 500,000 or 1 : 200,000

For the army map 1 : 200,000 or 1 : 100,000

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

After verification of the plan, a number of measures are carried out:

- the organization of rocket supply
- the selection and preparation of position areas
- the organization of the build-up and deployment
- the organization of coordination
- the support of combat activities and organization of troop control.

The participation of rocket troops of the front and army in the first nuclear strike.

The exact and effective conduct of the first nuclear strike results in:

- the rapid destruction of the enemy and conclusion of the operation.

The first nuclear strike is a joint strike by:

- rocket troops and
- air forces of the front.

The decisive role belongs to the rocket troops (60 - 70 percent : 30 - 40 percent).

With the result that:

- surprise is possible
- air defense cannot interfere
- weather has no influence.

The first nuclear strike is planned in peacetime.

The first nuclear strike is centrally planned.

In the decision of the commander, specific tasks are assigned to rocket troops.

These can include:

- the destruction of delivery aircraft on airfields
- control points of the air forces
- nuclear warhead and fuel depots for rockets
- large control points

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

~~TOP SECRET~~

- the most important groupings, especially tank groupings
- the air defense troops
- the most important installations of the rear services.

Based on the decision by the commander, the chief of staff of rocket troops and artillery allocates targets to the rocket troops and determines specific targets for each launch battery.

4. The Organization of Supply of Rocket Troops with Rockets Before the Start and in the Course of the Operation

Timely and continuous supply of rockets and munitions is one of the most important conditions for the successful conduct of combat activities. Rocket and artillery supply performs this function.

The storage of R-300 rockets under field conditions:

- 12 months (6 months if fueled)

Transport is permitted:

- by truck 2000 km
- by transporter 1500 km
- on the launcher 500 km

The main method of transport is by railroad.

Supply of propellants:

- 50 - 70 km from rocket troop elements.

Rocket-technical base:

- 30 - 50 km from the launch position .

Permission of the General Staff is required to deliver rockets and combat elements before the beginning of the operation.

The General Staff issues the instructions on planning for the supply of rockets.

In the decision of the commander are specified:

- the allotment of rockets and munitions in accordance with the tasks of the operation
- the times for preparing and delivering the rockets and munitions

TS # 199999
Copy # _____

- storage norms for rockets and munitions held by the troops.

The staff of the rear services of the front organizes:

- supply of the troops with rocket fuel and the delivery of munitions.

The staff of the rocket troops and artillery determines:

- who receives rockets and munitions, their yield, when and where they receive them, and the modes of transport.

The most important planning document is:

"The Plan for the Supply of Troops of the Front with Rockets, Munitions and Rocket and Artillery Weapons."

5. Peculiarities in the Combat Employment of Rocket Troops and Artillery in the Offensive Operation of the Front (Army) Which Has Begun Without Employment of Nuclear Weapons

Under modern conditions, without employment of nuclear weapons, the artillery represents the main firepower of the ground forces.

The tasks of the artillery:

- combating tactical nuclear weapons of the enemy
- supporting the buildup and deployment of first-echelon units
- combating the first-echelon units of the enemy
- defending against counterattacks and counterstrikes, and also impeding movement
- supporting the forcing of water obstacles
- supporting the introduction of second-echelon troops into combat.
- In the offensive operation which is executed with employment of nuclear weapons, there is no necessity to establish large artillery groupings on the scale of a front, nor to organize artillery fire for the breakthrough of the enemy defense on the main assault axis.

TS # 199999

Copy # _____

~~TOP SECRET~~

CSDB-312/01433-70

-70-

- Under the conditions of employment of nuclear weapons, the role of the artillery consists of providing fire support for those troops who attack immediately following the nuclear strike.
- combating tactical nuclear weapons and artillery
- destruction of tanks and vehicles
- combating antitank weapons, troops and means of fire
- suppression of enemy control points and radio-technical means

In operations without employment of nuclear weapons:

- the prerequisite for the success of the operation is:
 - . the establishment of fire superiority through
 - . the establishment of air and artillery superiority.
- In such an operation, artillery represents the most important firepower of the ground forces.

The most important employment principles:

- massive employment of artillery on the most important axes (60 - 70 percent)
- close coordination of the artillery with attacking troops and supporting air forces.
- continuous fire support of the troops.

Characteristics of the employment of artillery under these conditions:

- substantially more extensive tasks
- the conduct of strong fire preparation for the breakthrough of the enemy defense
- the necessity to combat all targets effectively with conventional weapons.

TS # 199999
Copy # 3

~~TOP SECRET~~

The Defensive Operation of the Army

1. Tasks of the Defensive Operation of the Army and Demands on the Defense

a. Possible Conditions in its Preparation and Conduct

- the conditions can vary
- they are determined primarily by the power relationship in the zone of the army and on adjacent axes.

In an offensive operation of the front:

- at the beginning of its conduct, in its development, and its conclusion
- during an enemy counterattack.

As a component part of the defensive operation of the front under unfavorable conditions (in the main theater of war, a characteristic is the defensive operation in army framework).

Under modern conditions:

- if, as a result of a surprise nuclear strike, troops of the army have suffered significant losses.
- in the course of an unsuccessful conclusion of a meeting engagement
- if it was not possible to repel the enemy counterattack in time
- in a march on the coast.

The shift of the army to the defense usually takes place:

- within a limited time period
- under strong enemy influence
- in a complicated and fast-changing situation
- under nuclear strikes
- immediately in defending against an attack by superior enemy forces in a situation of unequal forces.

Timely and intentionally:

- on adjacent axes
- in theaters of war with unprotected seacoasts
- in adjacent theaters of war

Under these conditions there is the possibility of careful preparation.

b. Tasks:

- The main objective consists of:
inflicting, with minimum forces, the maximum losses on superior enemy attacking groupings.
- Role: To act in support of the front in solving offensive tasks on the decisive axes.
- The army can have the following tasks:
 - . to destroy the enemy's means of nuclear employment on the relevant axes, in cooperation with the means of the front and adjacent fronts
 - . to repel enemy attacks and counterattacks
 - to repel strikes by enemy air forces
 - to hold sectors
 - to prevent a breakthrough in the rear of the front and army attacking troops
 - . to combat the enemy with nuclear weapons, air forces and other means and thereafter to go over to the offensive.

The width of the zone 100 - 150 km and more

The depth of the zone 100 - 150 km

c. Demands which are imposed on modern defense:

The character of modern defense is influenced by:

- nuclear weapons
- resolute activities of the attacking enemy
- strong strike, fire, and maneuver capabilities of the defending troops.

~~TOP SECRET~~

CSDB-312/01433-70

-73-

Modern defense is characterized by:

- resoluteness in objectives
- high pressure
- deep echeloning
- decentralization
- the absence of a continuous front
- maneuver capability
- vitality

as well as through--

- staggered shift by units and troop elements of the army to the defense on the various axes, and the fact that they can shift without a pause to offensive activities.

Demands imposed on the defense:

- troops defending themselves must be in a position to withstand strikes with nuclear and chemical weapons
- to resist attacks by air forces and artillery
- to repel attacks by superior forces
- to hold important sectors
- to prevent landings of airborne troops.

The defense must be:

- active and firm in opposing
 - . nuclear weapons
 - . chemical combat means
 - . air forces
 - . tanks
 - . artillery and assault troops.

TS # 199999
Copy # 3

~~TOP SECRET~~

In the achievement of the defense's vitality and steadfastness, an important role is played by:

- the skillful organization of nuclear, chemical, and air strikes and the system of fire of all types in conjunction with barriers established by combat engineers,
- the skillful use of the terrain and combat engineer construction,
- timely maneuver of fire, troops and barriers,
- surprise and resolute counterattacks,
- the defense of the troops and rapid liquidation of nuclear effects,
- firm and continuous control,
- rear services support.

2. The Preparation of the Defensive Operation

- The preparation of the defensive operation includes a complex of measures for the creation of an active and firm defense in a short period of time.
- The most important of these measures are:
 - the making of the decision and the assignment of tasks to the troops
 - the planning and organization of coordination
 - the preparation of the defense
 - the preparation of forces and means and high combat readiness for the conduct of surprise, powerful strikes against the enemy, and to defend against strikes by the enemy
 - the reestablishment of combat readiness after enemy strikes
 - the organization of support and control.

The order in which the work is done depends on the situation.

Significant factors are:

- the available time
- the operational situation and the character of the enemy activities and those of the army troops
- the tasks of the army.

TS # 199999
Copy # 3

Important:

- either under enemy influence or timely
- with employment of nuclear weapons, or
- without the employment of nuclear weapons.

Decision-making and planning:

- Decision-making has special characteristics in each individual instance of a shift to the defensive.

When influenced by the enemy:

- measures to destroy enemy nuclear weapons
- suppression of the attacking groupings
- firm hold of the terrain or seizure of advantageous sectors.

Important:

- rapid preparation of nuclear and chemical strikes
- maneuverability with troops and equipment
- regrouping for the defense
- organization of the fire system
- preparation of terrain by combat engineers
- barriers and demolitions
- immediate assignment of tasks to the troops
- under these conditions, the sequence is:
 - . making the decision
 - . assignment of tasks to the troops
 - . organization of fulfillment of tasks.

These measures represent a unified process.

Important: The order of assigning tasks

- to rocket troops
- to air forces
- to units
- to combat engineer troops.

TS # 199999
Copy # 3

~~TOP SECRET~~

CSDB-312/01433-70

-76-

- The decision has to be clear and straightforward. It forms the basis for all measures for the preparation and conduct of the operation.
- Clarification of the objective and task of the operation and assessment of the situation are the basis for the decision.
- Concept
 - where, when, with what forces, means and methods are the main enemy groupings being combated,
 - where is the enemy attack being repelled or halted and
 - where are the major efforts of the army concentrated
 - which defense groupings of troops can be created and how soon
 - when and where will combat engineer measures be carried out.
- In the organization of the defense in the period of shift to the employment of nuclear weapons, this employment is basic to the concept.
- Under the conditions of operations without the use of nuclear weapons, the concept is based on the massed fire of conventional means.

In accordance with the concept are determined:

- the tasks and order of nuclear weapon employment
- the forward line and defense sector of the army
- the tasks of the first and second echelon, the rocket troops, the air defense troops, the air forces, the combat engineers and the chemical troops
- the readiness deadline
- the nature of the combat engineer preparation and the barriers
- supply and control.
- Coordination is organized in the assignment of tasks.
- The essence of the planning consists of:
 - choosing the best-based alternative for employing troops and equipment in the defense
 - working out methods for destroying the enemy, as well as

TS # 199999

Copy # 3

~~TOP SECRET~~

- measures for supplying and controlling the troops, and the
- measures for coordination.

The defensive operation is planned according to:

- the tasks of the troops of the army, and
- the axes of the enemy attack.

The tasks can consist of:

- the destruction of the enemy's means of nuclear employment
- subduing the enemy at the approaches to the line of defense
- defending against the attack
- holding important areas in the tactical depth
- the destruction of airborne and amphibious assault troops
- the destruction of enemy groupings which are breaking through or have broken through, and the shift of the army to the attack.

Basic to planning in the period of non-nuclear activities are:

- the combat capabilities of conventional means; the shift to activities with nuclear weapons, however, must be considered.

The plan for the operation is laid out on a map, and appropriate calculations and explanations are appended.

In the construction of the defense are included:

- the operational make-up of the troops
- the employment of nuclear and chemical weapons in conjunction with strikes by air forces and fire by conventional means
- the system of air defense, and
- the preparation of the terrain by combat engineers, but not in stereotyped fashion.

The structure must correspond to the concept and assure:

- the most effective employment of all forces and means
- active air defense and troop protection

TS # 199999
Copy # 3

~~TOP SECRET~~

CSDB-312/01433-70

-78-

- steadfastness in antitank defense
- the holding of important sectors (areas)
- utilization of troop maneuverability
- favorable and continuous coordination and control.

The defense can have a different structure and different echeloning on each axis.

The formation of groupings has to be such that they can repel an attack with or without employment of nuclear weapons.

The operational structure of the army can include:

- first echelon
- second echelon
- a grouping of rocket troops and artillery
- a grouping of air defense
- combat engineer and chemical troops and reserves
- mobile barrier units
- control points.

The units of the first echelon create a tactical defense zone 20 - 30 km in depth.

The units of the first echelon occupy a defense sector up to 30 km in depth, which can also be as deep as 40 - 50 km.

It is expedient to have less in the first echelon and more in the second, but this depends on the situation.

In an enemy assault without nuclear weapons, a higher concentration on the important axes is necessary.

(Second echelon - tank army reserves, mobile engineers of the division)

The units of the second echelon and the reserves of the army together form the operational defense zone, 80 - 120 km in depth.

Depending on the situation and availability of forces, there may be 1 - 2 army defense sectors separated by a distance of 60 - 80 km.

TS # 199999
Copy # 3

~~TOP SECRET~~

It is expedient to take advantage of natural obstacles.

For the divisions of the second echelon and the reserves which are not in the defense sector--two or three axes for counterattacks.

This requires: march routes, deployment sectors, positions for rocket troops.

The position areas for the rocket troops must be located at least 50 - 60 km distant from the forward line.

The grouping of air defense troops must assure the cover of the main grouping.

The antitank reserves, the reserves of combat engineer and chemical troops, and the mobile engineers must be positioned in a manner which permits them to act on all axes.

The nuclear and chemical strikes are the decisive means for destroying the enemy assault groupings; the success of the defense depends on their results.

Nuclear weapon strikes are conducted to:

- destroy the means of nuclear weapons employment
- destroy the main groupings of the enemy
- neutralize the enemy attack.

The army can conduct:

- single or group nuclear strikes, but seldom massed nuclear strikes
- but only against important targets
- on a large-scale chemical weapons and air force strikes have to be employed.

In organizing the defense without employment of nuclear weapons,

- the constant threat of nuclear employment by the enemy
- requires a high level of combat readiness of the rocket troops.

The fire system for conventional weapons is based on:

- nuclear and chemical strikes
- strikes by air forces
- in conjunction with combat engineer barriers.

TS # 199999
Copy # 3

The fire system is organized according to the enemy's assault axis and includes:

- artillery fire
- fire of antitank weapons and tanks, and
- fire by weapons.

On the approaches, in advance of the front line, and in the depth:

- maneuverability must be assured through firepower
- commanders of units and troop arms elements are the chief organizers of the fire system.

In the defense without employment of nuclear weapons, the army organizes the fire:

- of the artillery grouping
- and the employment of the artillery of the second echelon.

The organization of counterpreparations:

- Special emphasis must be put on antitank activities
- a division of the first echelon--340 antitank weapons, including bazookas
- motorized rifle division (MSD)--665
- tank division (PD)--485

they can conduct a successful fight against two enemy divisions,

- antitank reserves and mobile engineers (BSA) of the army on the threatened axis.

The combat engineer preparation of the terrain:

- enhances the steadfastness of the troops on the defense and protects them
- favors the maintenance of their combat readiness
- creates favorable conditions for the employment of all fire weapons and for mobility
- makes the enemy's attack more difficult
- the defending troops suffer two or three times fewer losses than the attacking enemy.

TS # 199999
Copy # 3

Combat engineer preparation includes:

- the preparation of positioning areas for the rocket and antiaircraft rocket troops, and firing areas for the artillery and antiaircraft weapons
- the preparation of defense zones
- the preparation of roads for maneuver
- the preparation of deployment zones
- the preparation of control points
- the preparation of supply and rescue roads
- the creation of combat engineer barriers.

In the defense zone of the division are created:

- a system of support points
- protective communications trenches
- conditions for maneuverability along the front and in the depth.

In a defense without employment of nuclear weapons, the significance of combat engineer barriers, especially mine-fields, is increased.

Troop control:

- has great significance

The integrity of control determines:

- the organized shift to the defensive
- the success in destroying the attacking enemy.

Usually there are established:

- a command post--50 - 60 km from the front line
- a forward command post--20 - 30 km from the command posts
- often there is a forward command post.

When the front is wide, there may be an auxiliary command post.

When shifting to the defense in the course of an attack, control is usually conducted from the command post or forward command post.

3. The Conduct of the Defensive Operation

The shift of the army to the defense

The methods of conducting the operation are based on:

- the concept of the operation and the conditions of the shift of the army to the defense
- the status and nature of enemy operations
- the employment of nuclear and chemical weapons of the front
- the availability of nuclear and chemical weapons in the army.

The most important methods:

- defense against strikes by air and ground forces
- combat with chemical, nuclear, and fire by conventional means
- resolute retention of important areas
- vigorous counterattacks following nuclear strikes.

The frustration of the enemy's attack is also a possibility.

The destruction or frustration of the attack can be achieved through:

- the conduct of nuclear and chemical strikes while the enemy is advancing
- carrying out counter-preparation
- defense against the enemy's attack
- the conduct of artillery counter-preparation.

The conduct of nuclear and chemical strikes on the maximum possible scale is advisable

- losses of 60 - 70 percent force the enemy to discontinue the attack--frustration of the attack
- destruction of the enemy's nuclear weapons is important.

If the frustration of the enemy attack is not possible:

- weaken his groupings
- delay his advance
- gain time for the preparation of the defense.

TS # 199999
Copy # 3

Important is the destruction of:

- nuclear weapons and tank groupings.

In the use of surface bursts, it is important to consider meteorological conditions and the operational situation.

The carrying out of counter-preparation:

- success in combating and frustrating the attack can be achieved through counter-preparation against main enemy grouping.
- these measures are usually taken by the front but the responsibility can be transferred to the commander of the army.

Limited objectives can also be:

- the weakening of the main grouping
- the delay of the start of the attack
- the achievement of a time gain.

The main targets for destruction through counter-preparation are:

- nuclear delivery means
- the main strike grouping
- important control points.

Particular attention must be paid to the combating of tactical nuclear weapons

- The counter-preparation is carried out on several axes
- It is frequently done in conjunction with the carrying out of strikes by combined-arms units in advance of the front line
- It can be the beginning of the shift to a vigorous offensive or the occupation of advantageous sectors for the defense.

The Defense Against the Enemy Attack

The efforts of the troops are directed at:

- maximum combating of enemy groupings in advance of the front line and within the defense zones of the first-echelon divisions.
- This is achieved through:

TS # 199999
Copy # 3

~~TOP SECRET~~

CSDB-312/01433-70

-84-

- . strikes by rocket troops and air forces and artillery fire, with employment of nuclear and chemical weapons and conventional munitions
- . combat engineer barriers
- . stubborn retention of areas on the axis of the enemy attack
- . surprise strikes and counterattacks.

In case of an enemy breakthrough of the first-echelon defense line:

- hold advantageous areas and sectors
- combat the enemy with nuclear, chemical and conventional means
- inflict maximum losses
- split his combat disposition

The creation of conditions for the destruction of the enemy through the counterattack of the second echelon of the army.

- antitank weapons and combat engineer barriers
- very important is the mobility of forces and means.

The conduct of the counterattack by the army

It can achieve:

- the destruction of a grouping which has penetrated into the depth, and the creation of conditions for the shift of the army to the attack.
- limited tasks
 - . the destruction of the most dangerous or most deeply penetrating enemy grouping
 - . the reestablishment of the defense in an advantageous sector.

It is possible to repel the enemy attack with a part of the forces of the second echelon forces and subsequently to shift to the attack.

Important:

- determining the exact time for the conduct of the strike:
- while the defense is still firm

TS # 199999
Copy # 3

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~~TOP SECRET~~

CSDB-312/01433-70

-85-

- the first echelon is still holding its zones
- the enemy is suffering losses through nuclear weapons and other means
- the army can gain superiority (second echelon, reserves)
- hold up the enemy reserves through strikes of nuclear weapons and air forces.

In accordance with the conditions

- counterstrike on one or both flanks
- frontal strike--employment of nuclear weapons.

Peculiarities Under Conditions of Non-Nuclear Operations

- the major means of combat
 - . artillery - air forces
 - . tank fire
- capabilities of combat means diminish significantly
- only the air forces can strike the distant approaches
- consistent combating by fire during the deployment and the defense against attacks
- reduction in the tasks of counter-preparation.

TS # 199999
Copy # 3

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